

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed are apparatus and methods for generating and accessing arguments.

In one embodiment, an analytical system for generating and accessing arguments is disclosed. Each argument has an associated conclusion as to whether a particular

5 situation will likely have a negative or positive result is disclosed. The analytical system includes a database for storing a plurality of templates that each include a plurality of questions which may be answered to generate a particular argument having an associated conclusion regarding a particular situation that is based on answers to its associated template questions. The system further includes an

10 argument server for selecting one of the templates which is most relevant to a particular situation and for receiving input to one or more of the selected template's questions to thereby generate a new argument having an associated conclusion based on such answers. The associated conclusion indicates whether the particular situation will likely have a positive or negative result. In another aspect, the invention pertains

15 to a method for accessing or generating an argument having a conclusion for a particular situation. A plurality of templates are searched for a relevant template most related to a particular situation. Each template includes a plurality of questions. One or more questions of the relevant template are answered to then form a new argument having a conclusion based on the one or more answers.